# ANNUAL REPORT

# SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

# 1944-45

# Annual Report of the Department of Special Collections 1944-45

Director of Libraries:

The Department of Special Collections as reorganized July 1, 1944, (see Director's Memorandum, 44-9), has functioned now for one year. During this time services have been given from three reading rooms - Special Collections Reading Room, Room 205 Low Memorial Library (Miss Alice H. Bonnell in charge); Plimpton, David Eugene Smith and Dale Libraries, Room 210 Low Memorial Library (Miss Bertha M. Frick in charge); and Typographic Library, Room 654 South Hall (Miss Dorothy Eggert in charge). The administration of these reading rooms and collections has been centralized in the head of the Department. When time permitted monthly meetings were held to discuss common problems. It was requested that monthly reports be made to the head of the Department by the persons in charge of the reading rooms. Miss Frick worked only quarter time and Miss Eggert could give only ten hours weekly which did not allow much time for them to devote to the development of the Department as a whole. I have been able to work most closely, as in the past, with Miss Bonnell and the collections in the West Wing. The other collections are still working almost independently and on the same principles upon which they had previously functioned as departments except that they report to a department head instead of to the Director. Acquisitions are approved by the Head of the Department who clears for duplication.

Housing

The housing problem still remains the most important issue in the care and service of books in Special Collections. The two-building policy for The Libraries has some advantages and some disadvantages. The Low Memorial Library, if it is to continue to care for our rare books and

special collections, should, before too long, be reconditioned. Until such a program can be carried out the temporary division in service among three reading rooms seems most desirable. Most of the books in the meantime are suffering from poor storage conditions. Potential donors to The Libraries quickly see that the Low Memorial Library is not the ideal place for their collections.

Development of Collections

The generous budget has given us opportunity to acquire many desirable items for the collections. It has also made it possible for the person in charge of Special Collections to become better acquainted with members of the faculty and their needs. The Department has worked closely with the Assistant Director in charge of Readers' Services on a program for the development of the Department and has received much valuable help and advice from him. It seems very undesirable ever to allow the development of Special Collections to be separated from the general development of The Libraries as supervised by this Assistant Director. From the same point of view, the head of the Department of Special Collections should continually work to develop the Department along the general pattern set up for The Libraries. A report on the type of materials which should be set aside for consideration by Special Collections has been worked out for the Department. This report, a copy of which is attached, could well be expanded to include other fields in which special materials are being collected and cared for by school and other departmental libraries. It would seem that this could best be done by placing Special Collections as a Department under the Readers' Services. Thus a complete policy could be maintained which would cover all the departments of The Libraries, and Special Collections would not stand alone but be an integral part of the general development of The Libraries.

Technical Services

In the field of Technical Services some progress has been made in coordinating the collections in the Department. A survey was made of the uncataloged materials and an "in-process" file established in which these materials may be added. Problems referring to cataloging, binding and acquisitions were referred to the Assistant Director in charge of Technical Services. Within the Department much yet needs to be done. At present the technical processes are organized by the divisions of service. This presumes that each collection presents its special problems. There are, however, opportunities to work on a uniform program within all the various reading room units for the similar technical work which is now being handled separately by each division. For example, the graphic arts interests of all the collections should be developed as a whole with respect to classification, special files, etc. One specialist should be responsible for the technical problems of all incunabula scattered throughout the three divisions. Early manuscripts and modern manuscripts could be treated more uniformly. The curators of each collection as subject specialists would still be responsible for the general service and development of each individual collection but as the Department of Special Collections becomes more established, the technical skills within the divisions can and should be utilized throughout the Department.

Gifts - Epstean

Mr. Edward Epstean added some 139 volumes this year to the collection on the History and Science of Photography originally presented by him and his son Clarence in 1932. By his constant watchfulness and through his many contacts with students of photography this collection is being enriched each year. On June 1st the Columbia University Press published his translation of Josef Maria Eder's History of Photography. In the Translator's Preface Mr. Epstean wrote, "Any profits resulting from this

publication will be paid by the publishers to the Columbia University Libraries of New York City." The Eastman Kodak Company also generously presented to the Epstean Collection the current numbers of their Abridged Scientific Publications and their Monthly Abstract Bulletin, and Agfa Ansco also sends us their Agfa Diamond monthly.

Gifts - Kilroe

Mr. Edwin Patrick Kilroe, '04, made a number of additions during the year to his collection of Tammaniana. He presented a group of material relating to the motion picture, Wilson, released by 20th Century Fox in 1944. He also presented a group of 39 pen and ink original cartoons by such artists as Frederick Opper, Thomas Nast and Hy Mayer. Of special interest is a broadside caricature of Thomas Jefferson probably issued during the campaign of 1800 which is called "A Providential Detection" (full report made on R11 form, January, 1945). Mr. Kilroe also presented a number of current books containing references to the Tammany Society.

Gifts - Peter Rhodes

A few of the very rare volumes published by "Les Editions de Minuit", the famous underground press, were presented to The Libraries by Mr. Peter C. Rhodes (see article by Justian O'Brien in the Book Section of The New York Times, March 4, 1945, p. 5). These volumes were exhibited at Maison Francaise in April and were loaned for exhibition to the Norlyst Galleries on 56th Street in June for exhibition. Each of these volumes contains this statement in the colophon: "This volume, published at the expense of a few patriotic lovers of literature, has been printed in Paris under the oppression." They include such writers as Louis Aragon and Charles Morgan.

War Materials

Another item of current interest is the complete file of The St. James' Lyre and Piccadilly Gazette. This is a "Shelter News-Sheet"

which made its first appearance in the West End of London in October, 1940. Its aims were to record at the time the vivid impressions of the blitz, to interest and amuse the occupants of the shelters, and to raise funds for a St. James' bomber. Its editor and founder was "Pluto" (Gordon Cooper) who was an A.R.P. Warden at the time. The earliest numbers are now scarce. The file acquired by The Libraries is No. 29 of an edition of 40 copies, containing all the original issues, 1-24 (1940-41). It is in typescript on yellow, mauve, blue, pink and fawn paper. A few newspapers published in occupied Germany were received and placed in our general broadside files by date. A special collection of Soviet war posters was received from the Documents Division.

Gifts - Coykendall

Mr. Frederick Coykendall,'95, continued his very generous gifts to The Libraries (full report made on R11 form, January, 1945). This year he presented a selection from his library of early English literature. Most notable among these was the first English translation of The Decameron printed in London in two volumes by Isaac Iaggard in 1620. He also presented the first English translations of Rabelais's Works (London, 1663-1694). Four collections of the writings of 18th century authors included those of William Beckford, Thomas Chatterton, James Macpherson, and Mary Wollastoncraft. The few of the 19th century authors of which mention may be made are Walter Horatio Pater, Dante Gabriel Rossetti, Robert Southey and John Ruskin. There were also many single volumes of poetry of unusual interest such as the Poems by Currer, Ellis, and Acton Bell, pseudonym for the Brontes sisters,(London, 1846) and The Poems of Mrs. Ann Radcliffe (London, 1816).

Another group of items presented by Mr. Coykendall were the

publications of Cyril W. Beaumont. In 1917 Beaumont founded a private press to produce fine editions of hitherto unpublished works of contemporary writers. He was also interested in the theatre, the dance, and particularly the classical ballet. This collection contained some 25 volumes.

Gifts - Slavonic Books

A number of early volumes of Slavonic interest were presented to Special Collections this year. Mr. Bernard M. Allen presented two early grammars: Johann Moneta, Polnische Grammatik (Breslau, 1798) and G. F. Stender, Vollstandigere Lettische Grammatik (Braunschweig, 1761). The Klub Polski presented two rare items: Poemata in unum libellum collecta (Leipzig, 1755) by Klemens Janicki who was the first important Latin lyricist of the Polish renaissance, and Przysłowia mów potocznych (Breslau, 1809) by A. M. Fredro (full reports made on R11 forms, April, 1945). On a number of occasions Professor Coleman and Mrs. Coleman have brought visitors interested in Polish and Russian literature to Special Collections to see some of the rare material in this field. On the occasion of the meetings of the Slavonic Teachers of America here at Columbia, Professor Emeritus John Dyneley Prince spoke of his library of books which he presented to The Libraries and The Honorable Sylwan Strakacz presented on this occasion the two volume work of William Coxe, Travels into Poland, Russia, Sweden, and Denmark (London, 1784).

Gifts - Livingston

From the library of the late Professor Arthur Livingston a group of Italian 16th and 17th century editions were acquired. These were notable for the beauty of their typography as well as for their contents as literature. There were also a group of Venetian manuscripts of especial interest to historians and students of architecture (full report made on R11 form, June, 1945).

Gifts - Shepherd

The library of the late Professor William Robert Shepherd was presented by his sister, Mrs. Hetty Schultz. Besides one incunabula, Vocabularius juris utriusque (1481) the library contains a number of early volumes relating to Latin American history (full report made on R11 form June, 1945).

Gifts - Patterson

Mrs. Frank Allen Patterson permitted The Libraries to select from her husband's books all the 17th and 18th century imprints which we did not have. A few of these were: John Cotton's Teacher of the Church of Christ at Boston in New England (London, 1642), David Lloyd's Fair Warnings to a Careless World (London, 1665), Andrew Marvell's The Rehearsall Transpos'd (London, 1672 and 1673) and John Downame's Plea of the Poore (London, 1616). There were some seventy volumes altogether including a few recent Bibliographical Society publications selected from this library (full report made on R11 form, March, 1945).

Acquisitions

The Department of Special Collections has been very privileged this past year to purchase a number of valuable and interesting volumes to add to their collections. Miss Frick has recommended many pieces to be added to the Plimpton and David Eugene Smith Collections from the general fund allotted to the Department (see attached report from Miss Frick). Most of the purchases were for the general additions to our early printed books and some were for the Seligman Library. A number of items were also acquired from general library funds which were sent to Special Collections for care. A few of the early imprints of note which may be mentioned by title are: Robert Burton's Anatomy of Melancholy (London, 1621, 1st ed.; and 1628, 3rd ed.); Plutarch, Lives of Noble Grecians and Romans (London, 1595) and his Philosophie trans. by P. Holland (London, 1603); John Donne, Death's Duell (London, 1633)

and Poems (London 1633 ed. and 1635 ed.); Frances Bacon, Essayes (London, 1629); Samuel Johnson, Dictionary (London, 1755, 1st ed. 2 vols.). In American literature both manuscripts and 1st editions by Bryant, Longfellow, Whittier, Alcott, Hawthorne, Emerson and others were added to the collections. To the group of 1st editions by modern authors a number of additions were made especially to the George Moore Collection. In the field of Book Arts the chief additions were made in the Russian field due to the work with the help of the Slavonic Department and their friends in connection with the exhibition of Graphic Arts in U.S.S.R. Of interest among the items acquired for the Seligman Library was A List of the Prisoners of the Upper Bench Prison, Who Have Taken the Benefit of the Act of Parliament for the Relief of Poor Prisoners (London, 1633), one of the earliest lists of bankrupts. A volume of manuscripts dating from the Elizabethan and Stuart periods of English history was purchased. It contains an account of the trial of the Earl of Essex and an order issued and signed by Queen Elizabeth. This volume was formerly a part of the John Henry Gurney Library, Keswick Hall, Norfolk.

Exhibitions Areopagitica

The most important exhibition this year was held in collaboration with the English Graduate Union. It was in observance of the 300TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PRINTING OF JOHN MILTON'S AREOPAGITICA. Materials for this exhibition were drawn from the collections of The Libraries and through the courtesy of Dr. Lucy W. Markley from the McAlpin Collection at the Union Theological Seminary. On November 24th, 1944 an opening evening program was arranged.

The complete exhibition area of the Low Memorial Library was used. Miss Bertha Frick and the staff of the Plimpton, Smith and Dale Libraries set up the exhibition in Room 210. Professor William Haller, Barnard College, helped in selecting and labeling the material for Room 203. Miss Alice Bonnell and Mrs. Mary Hunt helped in the Rotunda and Room 203. The exhibition was very successful. The American Institute of Graphic Arts and the Grolier Club wished to cooperate with us in celebration of this event and their membership was included in the invitations to the opening. Members of the Conference of Eastern College Librarians were invited. The New York Library Club also requested to hold their fall meeting (December 5th) in the Low Memorial Library in celebration of the event. Various classes of the English Department were brought over to visit the exhibition.

Exhibitions Soviet War Posters

In collaboration with the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship an exhibition of SOVIET WAR POSTERS was opened February 23rd. Through the courtesy of Mrs. Corliss Lamont original Mukryniksy posters were exhibited. Mrs. Violet Cabeen had collected the TASS posters which were exhibited and Mrs. Olga Tarantini translated the Russian texts for the labels. A mimeographed catalog, listing the posters exhibited with their translations, was issued by the Library Office. On the whole there was fair publicity for the exhibition. The New York-World Telegram used about two-thirds of a full page for comment and reproduction. Many students, classes in poster work, and officials visited the exhibition and the Council of American-Soviet Friendship sent many visitors.

Exhibitions Coykendall Gifts

In recognition of the gifts of Mr. Frederick Coykendall, two exhibitions of recent gifts were arranged. Miss Bonnell arranged an exhibition of his first editions of JOHN MASEFIELD and Mrs. Hunt arranged an

exhibition of FIRST EDITIONS AND BOOKS RELATING TO THOMAS CHATTERTON, 1752-70 AND JAMES MACPHERSON, 1736-96. Other volumes presented by Mr. Coykendall were shown in the Areopagitica celebration.

Exhibitions Recent Acquisitions, Columbia University Press, etc.

The two flat showcases in the South Hall Lobby were used chiefly to show interesting recent acquisitions. Special purchases or single gifts of interest were shown in this way. Other cases in the Lobby were used to show recent Columbia University Press books of special interest to The Libraries. For example the dissertation on George Henry Calvert published by the Press was exhibited with first editions of his work presented by Miss Ida C. Everson. A Lobby case is now being used to show some of the interesting materials from BOOKS ACROSS THE SEA.

Exhibitions United Nations

For the student section of the United Nations Information Council a series of small exhibitions were held on various United Nations and a large exhibition was set up in the Rotunda of UNITED NATIONS LEADERS AND FIGHTING MEN with flags of the nations.

Exhibitions Plimpton

The Plimpton, Smith and Dale Libraries arranged two exhibitions in their room to hold over the summer selected from their resources. These are THE DEVELOPMENT OF WRITING and MILESTONES IN THE HISTORY OF MATHEMATICS. A mimeographed description was prepared for these exhibitions and distributed to visitors.

Exhibitions Piranesi

In the Rotunda and Room 203 an exhibition of prints of Views of Rome by GIOVANNI BATTISTA PIRANESI was set up. These prints, which came with the Seligman Collection, were supplemented by volumes from the Avery Library.

Preparation Work

A number of jobs of sorting and arranging were completed during the year. The Melvil Dewey Papers were sorted into vertical file

storage cases and into pamphlet boxes. The Harris-Oliphant Papers, presented the year before by Professor Schneider, were sorted and stored in file cases. The books are waiting to be cataloged as a group in our general "B" Collections by subject. The Gonzalez Lodge books were arranged and a checklist made for Mrs. Lodge. One set of the checklist has gone into the "in-process" file in the Acquisition Department and two others are available with the collection, one alphabetical and one chronological by shelf arrangement. The Coykendall Collections have been added to the "in-process" catalog being developed in the Acquisition Department. Special Acquisition Records, R11 reports, have been made for the Coykendall gifts up through the year 1949 and a survey report prepared of his gifts since 1940. These gifts of Mr. Coykendall total over 5000 volumes and have been valued at around $76,000.00. Imprints in the Seligman Library since 1900 not duplicated in The Libraries are also being added to the "in-process" catalog. The "in-process" catalog development by the Acquisition Department is one of the most valuable services begun this year for Special Collections materials.

Selection of Materials

In connection with the work of Special Collections early books and other special materials have been set aside regularly by the Cataloging Department to be checked by us. This work has been continued regularly and many items of value have been set aside for care in Special Collections. Other items in the General Library have from time to time been called to our attention and have been transferred. Several early editions of Milton's Areopagitica were transferred. Other items transferred were Secret Journals of Acts and Proceedings of the U. S. Continental Congress (1775-1788) and A Catalogue of the Most Vendible Books in England, 1658-1660. During the year a number of other groups

of collections were checked over carefully and recommendations made for their care. These were the Salman books, chiefly Mexican and Spanish imprints; the bequest of Professor Arthur Livingston; the gift and purchase of the library of Professor William R. Shepherd; the library of Professor John Dyneley Prince; the Bassett Jones library on Arctic and Antarctic; the library of the late Grenville Kane; and the library of Professor Frank Allen Patterson. Part of the books from the left of William Ewarts Benjamin were sorted for the General Library, Avery, Special Collections and processed by the Acquisition Department. The William Ewarts Benjamin Memorial Library is still in Cage 21 on Stack 15 of South Hall. The prints from this collection were sorted by Miss Bonnell and stored in Room 301, Low, in a vertical file and in cabinets there.

Room 103 and the vault are not large enough to hold all of the "B", "X", and "Z" materials as well as the manuscript collections. Parts from these collections are being moved to Room 301 Low and book dummies placed to mark the location of material moved. Previously we moved the "B" and "X", 892-893 (Near Eastern materials) to Room 301 and the B500-B530 (Mathematics) to the Plimpton Library. This year a number of sets were moved upstairs and all the American literature, B810-820. The new Coykendall collections as they are cataloged are being shelved on the 3rd floor also.

Growth of Special Collections

During the past few years the Department of Special Collections has made a number of additions to its collections. The general "B" collection has grown since 1940 from a little over 5,000 volumes to around 15,000 including some of the uncataloged gifts of Mr. Coykendall most of which will be classified as "B". A number of collections have been added to the care of this Department permanently and temporarily. Including

the Plimpton, Smith and Dale Libraries, the Typographic Library, but not the uncataloged manuscripts, clippings, bookplates and ephemera, the Department now has some 130,000 volumes (books and cataloged manuscripts). Following is a brief outline of the various collections now in Special Collections, giving their location and approximate size. The outline is divided by rooms through which the material is now serviced.

1. Collections serviced through Room 205 Low Memorial Library, Special Collections Reading Room, Alice H. Bonnell, Assistant in Charge.

| A. Printed Books: | Locality | App. no. of items |
|---|---|---|
| 1. General "B" Collection (By subject) | Vault,103-4,301 Low | 14,000 |
| Including: | | |
| R. W. Emerson, B812Em3 | 301 Low | |
| Lafcadio Hearn, B812H35 | 301 Low | |
| Coykendall gifts: (Robert Bridges, Leigh Hunt, John Masefield, and many others.) | 103,301 Low | |
| Motion Picture Coll., B809.22 | 301 (balcony) Low | |
| Near Eastern books, B892-3 | 301 Low | |
| Little Magazines, B050's | 301 Low | |
| Witmark Coll., "W" | 301 Low | |
| 2. Early printed books, "E" (By date) | Vault, 104 Low | 320 |
| 3. Book Arts Coll., 017-019.4 | 205,301,102-3 Low | 8,000 |
| Bookplate Coll., 018.32 (includes some 10,000 specimens) | 301 Low | |
| 4. Named Collections (These are classified separately and known by name): | | |
| Bronson Howard (only partly cataloged) | 301 (balcony) Low | 1,500 |
| Epstean Coll. (Photography), 019.6-019.8 | 102-3 Low | 3,500 |
| Holland Society books, "H" | 301 Low | 768 |
| Joan of Arc, "J" | 301 Low | 1,650 |
| Johnson, "K" | 301 Low | 2,088 |
| Kilroe (Tammaniana) (Contains over 50,000 pieces of manuscripts, ephemera, and clippings) | 301 Low | 3,000 |
| Gonzalez Lodge | 656 South | 1,500 |
| Mary Queen of Scots, "M" | 301 Low | 600 |
| Park Benjamin (Only partly cataloged also contains a large number of manuscripts) | 301 Low, Cage 21, South | 2,500 |

| | Locality | App. no. of items |
|---|---|---|
| Parsons Collections (Railroad prints) | 301 Low | 235 |
| Pulitzer Prize awards, "COP" | 103 Low | 500 |
| Seligman Library | 205,301 Low; Shelter, South Hall | 35,000 |
| William Evarts Benjamin Memorial Coll. (Also contains manuscripts) | Cage 21, South | 500 |

B. Manuscripts:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Cataloged Mss. Collection, "X" | Vault, Rms. 104, 301 Low | 1,760 |
| 2. | Cuneiform tablets | 104 Low | 450 |
| 3. | General mss. file (Alphabetical) | Vault, Rm. 104 | 5 boxes |
| 4. | Special mss. files | | |
| | Brander Matthews Papers | Vault | 2 files |
| | Conway, Moncure Daniel (Papers and Books) | Room 103, Low | app. 5,000 pieces |
| | Dewey, Melvil, Papers | Room 301, Low | 99 boxes, 33 files |
| | Dunning, William A., Papers | Room 104, Low | 5 boxes |
| | Emerson, R. W., letters (Photostats) | Room 301, Low | 25 boxes |
| | Goddard | Room 104, Low | 1 box |
| | Gonzalez-Prada Papers | Vault, Low | 1 box |
| | Harris-Oliphant (Papers and Books) | Room 103, Low | 3 files, 2 boxes |
| | Laboratory Press files | Room 104, Low | Partial file |
| | Lehmann-Haupt (mss. and proof) | Room 104, Low | 1 box |
| | Mexican documents (Salman's) | Room 104, Low | 2 boxes |
| | Mezes Papers | Room 104, Low | 2 boxes |
| | Robert Brothers Correspondence | Room 103, Low | ½ file |
| | Spanish Refugee Papers | Room 301, Low | 47 files |
| | Stedman Papers | Room 301, Low | app. 10,000 pieces |
| | Tannenbaum (Mexico) | Room 104 | 3 boxes |
| | Wendriner (on deposit) | Room 104 | 3 boxes |
| | White, George | Room 104 | 1 box |

C. Miscellaneous materials:

| | |
|---|---|
| Objects of various sorts | Vault, 104 Low |
| Book Auction and Dealers Catalogs | 301 Low |
| Motion Picture Stills | 205 Low |
| Prints (From W. E. Benjamin gift) | 301 Low |
| Photographic prints from Chandler Museum | 301 Low |
| U.S.S.R. War Posters | 301 Low |
| Book Arts Ephemera | 102,205,301 Low |

D. Materials on deposit

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Music Library mss. | Vault, Low | 2 shelves |
| Law Library books and mss. | Vault, Low | 2 |

| | Locality | App. no. of items |
|---|---|---|
| S.L.S. Library books | Vault, Low | 5 |
| Campbell coins | Vault, Low | uncounted |
| Volume of King of Greece | Vault, Low | 1 |
| Messages and Papers of the Presidents (WPA) | 301 Low | 35 cartons |
| Officers Reference Library | 301 Low | |
| School Masters Association files | 104 Low | 2 shelves |
| Home Study Revised Course outlines | 104 Low | 2 shelves |
| Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (Professor James T. Shotwell) | Vault, 301 Low | 5 shelves |
| Punch, vol. 1, 1841-1941 (Journalism) | 301 Low | 100 vols. |
| Adjustment Service Records belonging to Teachers College | West Gallery, Low | |
| Dr. Pinthus' books | 401 Low | |

II. Collections serviced through 210 Low Memorial Library, Plimpton, Smith and Dale Libraries, Bertha M. Frick, Curator.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| A. | Plimpton Library | 210 Low | 16,275 total |
| | Western mss. (405) | | |
| | Orientalia (70) | | |
| B. | David Eugene Smith Library | 210 Low | 20,280 total |
| | Western mss. (100) | | |
| | Oriental mss. (950) | | |
| | Written documents (1,500) | | |
| | Autograph letters (4,000) | | |
| | Instruments (280) | | |
| | Portraits (3,250) | | |
| | Medals, counters, etc. (300) | | |
| C. | Dale Library (Weights and measures): | 210 Low | 1,000 |
| D. | On deposit | | |
| | Portraits of Mrs. Plimpton | 210 Low | |
| | Classics Department coins | 210 Low | |

III. Collections serviced through 654 South Hall, Typographic Library, Dorothy Eggert, Librarian.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Typographic Library: | | 654 South | 17,754 total |
| Bound and pamphlets | 11,910 | | |
| Periodicals | 4,402 | | |
| House organs | 151 | | |
| Newspapers | 85 | | |
| Dealers catalogs | 850 | | |
| Duplicates | 1,356 | | |

Statistics

The statistics this year show a drop in the number of readers but an increase in the number of books used. (Readers in Plimpton and Typographic Libraries not recorded) Our practice of closing between 12 and 1 o'clock has been criticized this spring. I have considered it as as economical measure during war time and believe that as soon as a full staff can be maintained the Department should go back to a full time schedule from 9 to 5 daily.

Statistics on the use of Special Collections, 1944/45, summarized from the monthly reports.

| | I,1,C | I,2C | II,2 | IV,2 | Registered Readers Room 205, only |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1944 July | 411 | 2 | 0 | 41 | 169 |
| Aug. | 349 (P.123) | 0 | 0 | 36 | 67 |
| Sept. | 78 (P.32) | 0 | 0 | 14 | 6* |
| Oct. | 272 (P.37,T.29) | 0 | 0 | 42 | 68 |
| Nov. | 183 (P.23) | 0 | 0 | 29 | 76 |
| Dec. | 608 (P.75) | 3 | 0 | 52 | 113 |
| 1945 Jan. | 387 (P.76,T.60) | 0 | 0 | 57 | 64 |
| Feb. | 246 (P.59,T.30) | 0 | 0 | 54 | 57 |
| March | 305 (P.42,T.3) | 0 | 1 | 11 | 60 |
| April | 314 (P.38,T.7) | 0 | 0 | 27 | 60 |
| May | 144 (P.31,T.5) | 1 | 0 | 37 | 48 |
| June | 159 (P.40) | 9 | 0 | 23 | 42 |
| | 3456 (P.585,T.132) | 15 | 1 | 422 | 830 |

P. - Plimpton, Smith and Dale Libraries
T. - Typographic Library. Reported statistics for only 6 months of the year.
*Reading Room 205 closed Aug. 14-Sept. 25, 1944.

A comparison by years since 1938/39

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1938/39 | 4291 | | | | |
| 1939/40 | 6159 | | | | |
| 1940/41 | 10099 | 203 | 802 | | 1871 |
| 1941/42 | 8165 | 123 | 151 | 702 | 1628 |
| 1942/43 | 3302 | 69 | 21 | 1004 | 1146 |
| 1943/44 | 2384 | 37 | 8 | 438 | 984 |
| 1944/45 | 3423 | 15 | 1 | 422 | 830 |

For Special Collections Reading Room, Miss Bonnell has kept the following figures during the past couple of years.

| | A. | B. | C. | D (1) | D (2) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1943/44 | 1015 | 1799 | 124 | 354 | 57 |
| 1944/45 | 1144 | 937 | 91 | 169 | 25 |

A. - Books sent to Cataloging Department
B. - Books for which cards have been received from the Cataloging Department.
C. - Cataloged by Special Collections (mss. and broadsides).
D. - Binding (1) Sent to Binding Department
(2) Temporary tie-in-boards

Cataloging done has increased as work has gone forward again on the Seligman Collection in addition to other accessions. There remains about 46,000 volumes (not including mss.) to be cataloged from the collections in the West Wing of Low Memorial Library. There are some 16,000 in Plimpton and 17,000 in Typographic also uncataloged.

The old "Y" collection of less than 100 volumes was sent to the Cataloging Department to be recataloged for the General Library and "B". "Y" (see Director's Memorandum 45-20) is now used for books not warranting "B" care, but still not desirable for the general stacks.

The number of cards received from the Cataloging Department for books cataloged has fallen off considerably this year. This curtails the use of these books since for the most part they are not recorded in the catalog. The lower binding figure has two causes: (1) Last year a special project to catalog and bind Seligman periodicals was undertaken. Many of these have not yet been returned from the Binding Department even after one year. (2) Most of the binding done for Special Collections books requires special care and materials. Since this sort of service is not available now, the books are being held until such time as they can be so handled.

Use of Special Collections Reading Rm.

The Conway Collection has been used regularly during the year. A number of students have used the Seligman Library for graduate work. The Economics Club held a tea in Room 205 last fall at which time we had an exhibition of some of the rarities from the collection and talked of the collection, its aims, and showed some of the interesting items to the

students. The English literature class of Professor Haller of Barnard visited the Department. We got out a number of our rare 17th century volumes to show them including the Shakespeare folio. A number of special research workers used the Epstean Collection in connection with their work and a man from the Daily News obtained some very useful material in connection with a patent suit he was working on. A School of Library Service class in Advanced Cataloging drew on material in Special Collections and we furnished them with some uncataloged problems. The History of Books course visited the press in Room 105 and a demonstration was held and motion pictures taken.

Loans

An uncompleted bibliography on "Public Finance" of Dr. Seligman's was lent to the Library of Congress (Professor Haig of the Economics Department was consulted and also Eustace Seligman before lending this material). One carton of the Messages and Papers of the Presidents was lent to Lt. Lord for use in Washington. Princeton borrowed a selection of Parsons prints for exhibition, the New Jersey State Museum borrowed material for their exhibition on the History of the American Newspaper. French underground press publications were lent to the Norlyst Galleries for exhibition.

Book Shelter

Special service on books from the Book Shelter was given to Dr. Samuel Bernstein and Dr. Paul Beik. They were permitted to use a selection of books from the Seligman Collection in their studies in South Hall. There is a real need for a place for scholars to work with Special Collections materials in the Low Memorial Library where they may keep their notes, etc. and use a typewriter.

Care of Materials

A special folder for storage of frail pamphlets and other materials little used was devised. These were made by the Printing Office and

have proved very useful to us and also Columbiana. Very little binding and repair was sent out this year because of war conditions, and practically no oiling of books was done.

Recommendations - Graphic Arts

In order to keep together and not overlap in the work of developing and giving service of materials in the graphic arts fields in Special Collections, the following recommendation is made to serve for division of responsibility in these fields for the interim period this coming year. These fields are included in the Typographic Collection (654 South Hall), Book Arts Collection (Room 205 Low and 301) and the Epstean Collection on Photography (Room 102 Low). There seems no way now to bring these collections together physically or have one reading room for servicing them. I would recommend, however, the responsibility for their development, problems of classification and use be turned over to Miss Eggert who will report directly on needs or recommendations for changes. Miss Bonnell would still supervise the use of the collections in Low Memorial Library, follow through on the technical processes of classification, keeping up the Book Arts and Epstean Catalog in Room 205, and the binding. I would also recommend that the printing presses and type equipment in Room 105 Low Memorial Library (one of which came from the American Type Founders Museum) also be under Miss Eggert's supervision in case requests for use of this equipment should be made.

From a University point of view it seems that the Typographic Library could be developed not just as a collection of material relating to printing and its history, but as a core collection for the study and appreciation of books as research materials. This collection can form the basis for much good bibliographical work both by the staff of Special Collections as a whole as well as by professors and scholars. The

knowledge of printing technics in the 19th and 20th centuries, for example, has just been touched by bibliographers and this collection should be especially useful to many of the graduate students looking for help in their work of descriptions, study and appreciation of modern books.

Projects and work for the coming year.

Projects and work for the next few years which seem important are the following: 1.) Complete checking of all the Seligman material since 1800 for the "in-process" catalog. Transfer of those materials from the Seligman Collection which do not belong in a collection of original editions of economic books for research to the main library; 2.) Continue to put all other uncataloged collections in the "in-process" file so that there will be no duplication in buying, and a record of our holdings will be available in South Hall; 3.) Continue the cataloging of early Seligman books in the Book Shelter so they may be returned to Low Memorial Library for use; 4.) Work on a revised catalog of the Epstean Collection which Mr. Epstean is interested in having published; 5.) Work on a complete checklist of our incunabula and if possible publish ~~as~~ a catalog such as was done for the cuneiform tablets; 6.) Prepare similarly a checklist of broadsides (in Seligman) and publish as one of the catalog series; 7.) Revive the repair and special binding department in Low Memorial Library for care of Special Collections materials and other valuable work; 8.) Survey the Graphic Arts collections with the view to consolidating the scattered collections in this field, and establish one classification and one set of special classified files for various aspects of the graphic arts; and 9.) Set up a policy for the selection and care of auction house and book-dealers catalogs in collaboration with the Acquisition Department.

Personnel

The personnel reports requested this year from each member of the staff and the supervisors' reports on these positions revealed a number of important facts in our organization. It did not seem desirable, however, to try at this time to make any radical changes in responsibilities and duties within the Department. Present conditions and the future policies of Special Collections seemed too unsettled.

Miss Alice H. Bonnell has worked very closely with me in the development of the Department. She has been very cooperative. She understands the problems involved and has obtained a good over-all picture of the needs of the Department. Work has been difficult with changing assistants, but she has supervised the work of the assistants and has kept up-to-date the work of the Department. She has done good work on exhibitions. I can recommend without qualification any increase of salary available in recognition of her work and the responsibilities which she carries.

Miss Bertha M. Frick has managed the Plimpton, David Eugene Smith and Dale Collections independently and well. It is to be regretted that she has only one-quarter time/to devote to the work of The Libraries. Her years of experience have given her a very detailed knowledge of her collections. The development of the scope of these collections beyond the pattern set by their donors to include related fields seems very desirable. In place of detailed monthly reports, Miss Frick preferred to prepare a comprehensive annual report which she is doing. For this reason I have not been able to keep too closely in touch with her work and needs, but I have no doubt that her work has been carried on well as it has in the past. Her report is attached.

Miss Dorothy Eggert has been in the unfortunate position of having another full time position requiring most of her energies and thoughts.

We have not been able to plan the development of the graphic arts collections. She feels very much the need for a precise set of policies for the future of the Typographic Library and seems very reluctant to even consider plans or ideas which would in any way touch the individuality or concept of the Typographic Library as developed by Mr. Bullen at the American Type Founders Library.

Miss Anna Q. Cushing as secretary to the Department has been as always efficient and thorough in all her work. Much of her work was devoted to the preparing of Library Columns, the Annual Report of the Director, exhibition labels and special reports. She has a good knowledge of the work in Special Collections. During the coming year she can be very helpful to Miss Bonnell in giving service in the reading room. She has become a Notary Public and will be able to take care of this type of work requested by the Office of the Secretary to the President. Her work during the past eight years has made her services more and more valuable to the Department and to me and I know it will continue to be so for The Libraries. Her time during the year has been divided as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Administrative typing and dictation | 72% |
| Stenographic work for Mr. Angell | 6% |
| Stenographic and typing work for exhibitions - labels, letters, reports | 8% |
| Other office and Library work | 14% |
| | 100% |

As Assistant to the Director of Libraries a number of projects were accomplished. The annual report was compiled for the Director. As a member of the Program Committee of the Conference of Eastern College Librarians, many of the details of the Thanksgiving conference were supervised. A short history of the conference has been prepared to aid the new Program Committee this coming year and answer a number of

questions which have been raised regarding the policies of the annual conference. The List of Some Special Collections and Donations for The Libraries was issued. Four issues of Library Columns came out and plans for a special summer issue were made. Mr. Andrew Peters will complete this issue. I helped Mr. Epstean complete and publish his translation of Eder's History of Photography.

My work during the past seven years in the Columbia University Libraries has been both valuable and enjoyable. I regret that I have not been able to work more closely with you during the past year due to your absence from Columbia. I know that when you return you will be able to solve many of the problems which face the development of the Department of Special Collections here at Columbia. I sincerely hope that you will find someone to carry on this work and cooperate with you to the fullest extent. To work in Special Collections is a real privilege and I know that you will make the position as fine an opportunity as there is in this country for work in this field. I thank you for all your help and advice to me during the past two years and I look forward to a lasting cordial relation with you and the staff of The Libraries of Columbia University.

Respectfully submitted,

CMA:AQC

Charles M. Adams

Rec'd 7/24/45

The following report was submitted by Miss Bertha M. Frick:

Mr. Adams:

As curator of the Plimpton, Smith and Dale Libraries I have the honor to present the following report for the academic year ending June 30, 1945.

The major part of Mr. Ives' time this year was concerned with the completion of his work on the transcription of our "Alcuin codex" (De Ricci Census no. 58) - considered the most valuable of all our medieval manuscripts. Altho primarily a Pseudo-Gregorian Gospel commentary, it is in its numerous scriptural citations that the codex has proved to be most important. The results of Mr. Ives' study show that these citations form an important witness to the character of the pre-Vulgate or the Old Latin Bible, extant specimens of which are so much rarer than those of the Vulgate version. It is to be hoped that the results of this study will take the form of a published article and thus bring to the attention of interested scholars the possibilities of this important codex.

In order to be able to work with some of our other Biblical manuscripts, Mr. Ives has mastered the elements of Hebrew and Syriac. He has already begun the examination and description of a large Syriac lectionary in the David Eugene Smith collection.

As there is no course in Latin paleography now being given in the University, both faculty (Prof. Thorndike, Prof. Kristeller) and graduate students came to Mr. Ives for help in solving various problems in paleography and related topics. He also serves as consultant in manuscripts, medieval and classical Latin, for other departments of the Libraries.

Miss Schild devoted most of her time to cataloging and this year saw the completion of the cataloging of all books in the language section,

that is, the dictionaries, spellers and grammars of all languages represented in the collection. There still remain the readers and rhetorics.

Cataloging of our splendid calligraphy collection was begun in May and, although it is too early yet to give detailed information, it is already certain that the collection contains several early English imprints which appear to be unique.

In cooperation with the head of Special Collections Miss Schild examined and reported on a collection of Venetian documents left to the Libraries by Prof. Livingston.

Two exhibitions were arranged this year. In November, to supplement the exhibition prepared by Book Arts and the English department in celebration of the 300th anniversary of the printing of Milton's Areopagitica, this Library arranged a display, "Education and Learning in Milton's England". Milton's treatise "On Education" was issued the same year as the more famous Areopagitica.

The current exhibition is divided into two parts - the history of writing and the history of mathematics. The first topic, always of popular appeal, is of direct value to the summer session students in the School of Library Service while the second subject is primarily for the benefit of classes of mathematics in Teachers College.

This year saw the acquisition of more than a hundred books, about half of which came through gift, transfer from other departments or by allotment from consignments received in the Acquisition Department. The fifty which were ordered and purchased represent a planned attempt to round out the holdings of these collections. They range in period from an incunabulum (ca. 1495 edition of Sacro Bosco's Sphaera) to a 1945 limited edition of Euclid's Elements (Book I designed by Bruce Rogers). The eleven acquisitions from the 16th century include two of the most important books in this Library - First of these is the Operina of

Ludovico Arrighi issued in Rome in 1522. Usually spoken of as the first writing-master's copybook, it therefore takes its place at the head of our magnificent collection of such works. It is not, however, the first book on the art of calligraphy to appear. The Plimpton collection is fortunate in having Fanti's Theorica et pratica ... de modo scribendi (Venice, 1514) for the honor of first position. This, however, was preceded by Pacioli's Divina proportione (Venice, 1509) which included a section on the formation of letters. (This work is in Typographic Library). The Italic letter used by Arrighi was copied even more extensively by printers and met with even greater success than did Aldus' italic. Coming down to modern times it is important to note that Arrighi's letter was used as a model by Frederic Warde in designing an italic type face to be used with Bruce Rogers' "Centaur". Appropriately enough, Warde's type face was named "Arrighi". - The Operina therefore occupies a major place in the collection of writing-masters' copybooks and in the book arts collection in which the Libraries are so rich.

The other important acquisition may well be called the keystone to our mathematics texts. The work is Robert Recorde's Pathway to knowledg (London, 1551.) Not only is it the first geometry in English, it is also the first appearance of the famous Elements of Euclid from an English press. While it contains only the substance of the first four books of the Elements the volume antedates by almost twenty years the first full-dress English edition of Euclid. The Recorde edition is extremely rare - this is one of four copies located in the U. S. (This title was circularized by the Union Catalogue at L. C. only four years ago). We are fortunate in possessing also the second edition of the Pathway, issued in 1574, which seems to be slightly rarer even than the first edition. Three copies

have been located in the U. S. but this is the only institution to contain both editions. Strangely enough each edition seems to become increasingly rarer for only a single copy of the 1602 edition appears to be in existence - and that is in the British Museum. So any ambition we have to possess all three editions (apparently all that were issued) would seem to be a vain hope. But - one never knows! - Our copy of the 1551 edition has an interesting provenance, being the Britwell Court copy which was sold at the Christie-Miller sale in London about twenty years ago. Columbia made the purchase through the Rosenbach Company.

Also acquired were two editions of Erasmus' famous Praise of Folly, one from the 16th century and the other from the 17th century.

Several important additions to our astronomy collection were made - among them, the Sacro Bosco mentioned above, a 16th century edition of the famous Alfonsine tables, Galileo's Systema cosmicum of 1635, Scheiner's Refractiones coelestes of 1617 and Vincent Wing's Urania practica of 1648, one of the earliest English books on the subject. - To our early American text books were added several editions of McGuffey's Readers and a Webster Spelling book.

Dr. Isaac Mendelsohn completed the listing of the Korans in the David Eugene Smith collection. Arranged by arbitrary numbers, the description includes identification of type of script and decoration, indication of date, size of page and binding. Of the 50 odd pieces examined by Dr. Mendelsohn the earliest dated one is 1537 A. D. There are several from the 17th and 18th centuries, twenty-two from the 19th century, while nineteen have no date. Identification of these must await further study.- Such a list is a welcome addition to our aids. It is to be hoped that our Arabic scientific manuscripts can be given similar treatment.

Needs.

Outstanding is the need for a part-time clerical worker and typist. For several years tasks which should be done by such an assistant have been postponed, to our own annoyance and inconvenience. But many such tasks cannot be put off so that there is no member of our small staff who is not doing work which should be done by a clerical assistant.

The other outstanding needs revolve about physical equipment. First, for the preservation of the books (the heat and dryness are both very bad); secondly, for the eyesight of our patrons (light on tables and exhibition cases quite inadequate); and thirdly the efficiency and comfort of the staff (new, or repaired, typewriters and an electric fan).

Bertha Frick

Rec. 7/31/45



The following report was submitted by Miss Dorothy Eggert:

Mr. Adams:

Activities in the Typographic Library during the year ended June 30, 1942 are summarized in this report.

A printer of New York City telephoned one day to ask for suggestions to send his soldier son of titles of books on the history of printing that might be "picked up" in Belgium for his father. The request was one of several this year that indicated a growing interest in the development of private libraries in the subject field. The Club of Printing House Craftsmen has within the past two years developed a movement for organizing libraries within each Club, and has stimulated interest in book auctions for the benefit of the libraries. The idea of the book auction originated with Mr. Perry R. Long, the printer mentioned in the first sentence, and the auction was intended originally as a memorial to members who had passed on during the year. The idea has spread and has been adapted to conditions in Clubs in various parts of the country. In Newark recently the proceeds of the book auction were turned over to the Newark Library for the purchase of books on printing. Books purchased with the fund had a special bookplate.

Students of the School of Library Service continue to use the library more than any other group. In only one or two cases could such use be considered as research, since the students are usually utterly unfamiliar with the field and with what they want to do.

Service in such cases consists of first aid and overlaps rather than supplements teaching. As has been mentioned many times, the noteworthy contribution of the Typographic Library, as of any special library, lies in the number of analytics available in the card catalog.

A third type of increasingly numerous reader comes in search of books represented in the General Catalog by "temporary" slips. One such reader, as surprised as most to find the book he wanted in a library concerned with printing, was delighted to discover a book of poems by Glenway Westcott. He thought that it was the only book of poetry that Mr. Westcott had published.

A public library that is trying to catalog and build up its "press collection" of fine books sent several calls for help to the Typographic Library, and borrowed bibliographies and monographs as well as the list of subject headings that is under construction. Another public institution, the Milwaukee Vocational School, asked for suggestions for a permanent corridor exhibition to illustrate the history of printing. The New Jersey State Museum drew on the library for material for an exhibition on the history of newspapers in the United States.

Access to the library has been simplified by the establishment of regular hours, which were initiated September 27th. Although the hours are brief (2:00-4:00 P.M. Monday through Friday) they have apparently been adequate. On several occasions they were

extended to accommodate off-campus readers, but such extensions have not been for more than a half hour. No requests were received for special appointments.

The room is not equipped to serve many readers at a time, and opportunity is sometimes provided for a test of the good nature of the students. On December 10th eight students from the School of Library Service spent an hour or more at work in close quarters, seven elbow to elbow around the single table and one sitting on the stairs. Without exception, and regardless of past achievements in the field of scholarship, the users of the library accept conditions graciously and in a friendly and uncritical manner. As matters stand at present, however, it is to be hoped that use of the library does not expand to a marked degree, at least during the periods that students of the School of Library Service are preparing term papers.

Exhibitions in honor of Benjamin Franklin and timed to coincide with National Printing Week were set up in a case in the Lobby of South Hall and in the Typographic Library. Miss Frick continues to draw on the library for her exhibitions in the Library of the School of Library Service.

Acquisitions of the year included gifts of 32 unbound serials in the field of typefounding that appeared from 1896 to 1918, sent by Lee Augustine of Cleveland, and one of the very desirable Typophile Chap Books (no.11: John Baskerville, by J.M. Benton) which was sent

by Paul A. Bennett of the Mergenthaler Linotype Company. Miss Katharine M. Holden, daughter of a Yonkers physician who achieved distinction in several of his avocations, gave the library her father's correspondence and publications concerned with his type faces (Victory, Jensonian, French, and Antique), as well as books and periodicals he had used in his studies of type design, his sketch book, original drawings, cuts and type specimens. Frederic W. Goudy had encouraged Dr. Holden and had given him several examples of his printing. The Goudy correspondence and imprints are of special interest, as are the accomplishments of a self taught type designer who urged in his writings the feasibility of the combination of beauty and legivility in type faces.

Plans for future work remain in the state in which they were at the time the librarian was transferred to East Asiatic Collections. Aside from service to readers, work completed during the year was limited to reconstruction of the title file of the periodical catalog. It had been dismembered at the time a vain attempt was made to report holdings to the Union List of Serials. A shelf list is partly made. The interrupted work on the vertical files needs to be completed, and then it is hoped that work on the classification and list of subject headings can be resumed. Progress is almost imperceptible when work is confined to ten hours a week, but the library remains usable and is able to incorporate new publications, purchases of titles ~~of titles~~ of historical interest, and gifts.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

Annual ~~Monthly~~ Statistical Report for 1944/1945

Department Typographic Library Signature Dorothy Eggert

## PART A - USE OF BOOKS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| I. Books | | |
| 1. Use in building | | |
| a. Reserved | | |
| b. Non-Reserved | 381 | |
| c. Total | | 381 |
| 2. Circulation | | |
| a. Reserved | | |
| b. Non-Reserved | | |
| c. Total | | |
| II. Interlibrary Loan (Local) | | |
| 1. Number of borrowing libraries | 1 | |
| 2. Number of books borrowed | | 6 |
| III. Total of I, 1 and 2, and II, 2 | | 387 |
| IV. Intramural Library Loan | | |
| 1. Number of department libraries borrowing | | |
| 2. Number of books borrowed | | |

(This circulation is not included in the item III total. Standard definitions of terms, available in mimeograph form, must be carefully followed in making up reports.)

## PART B - NOTES AND COMMENTS

R36(444)C2

(Use other side, if necessary)

As an aid in determining the selection of books for Special Collections the following general criteria may be used. The criteria may be divided for convenience as follows:

I. By date;

II. By subject;

III. By form;

IV. By value.

Within each of these groups the criteria are only minimum, but are suggested as a preliminary guide. Decisions as to what should actually be placed in Special Collections must be made individually. When in doubt about an item needing special care or protection, set it aside for consideration. It may be that it should actually go into the "Y" or some departmental or school library collection. Material falling within the following criteria should be considered for special care before being classified in the general library.

I. By date.

A. All imprints printed before 1601.

B. All English and Latin American imprints printed before 1701.

C. All United States and Canadian imprints before 1801.

II. By subject.

A. Mathematics, Astronomy, Calligraphy. (Plimpton, Smith)

1. Continental, Latin American, and English imprints before 1801.

2. United States and Canadian imprints before 1851.

3. All works of Newton, Euclid, Galileo.

B. Grammar, Dictionaries, Spellers, etc. (Early textbooks on secondary school subjects) (Plimpton, Smith)

1. All continental, Latin American and English imprints before 1701.

2. All United States and Canadian imprints before 1851.

C. Tammaniana. (all)

D. Literary Annuals (810.81 or Park Benjamin). American and English 1820-1870.

E. Joan of Arc. (all)

F. Mary Queen of Scots. (all)

G. Graphic Arts.

1. Printing, Typefounding, Papermaking.

2. Book Illustration, Fine Bookmaking, Bookbinding, Private Press. (Books about and specimens selected in these categories.)

3. Photography (before 1910).

4. History of Books, Book Collection, Bibliography (before 1700).

H. Economics, Trade, Taxation, etc. (Seligman)

1. All imprints before 1800.

2. Selective for the 19th century, especially works of Robert Owen, Mathew Carey, Arthur Young, Ernest Jones, Karl Marx, Francis Place.

3. Social reform movements and Socialism and Anarchism.

4. Transportation before 1850.

5. Labor before 1850.

I. American and English Literature.

1. Park Benjamin period. 1st editions and literary periodicals published in New York or related to the New York School of the Knickerbocker period, app. 1830-1864.

2. Little Magazines (selective).

3. 1st editions of English and American poetry of 1890's to date. (Additions to collections presented to The Libraries

by Mr. Coykendall, such as Robert Bridges, John Drinkwater, Leigh Hunt, John Masefield, De la Mare, E. A. Robinson, Richard Le Gallienne, etc.

4. English Literary periodicals before 1800.

5. American literary periodicals (selective) which ceased publication before 1860.

6. English drama before 1800 (individual plays).

7. American drama before 1851. (individual plays).

8. First editions of English and American literature of note; also all works of Stedman, C. E., Emerson, R. W. and Conway, M. D.

9. First editions of Irish Renaissance literature - Yeats, A.E., Moore, G., Joyce, J. and other authors.

J. Early editions of Greek and Roman literature before 1700 (Lodge).

K. Weights and Measures (Dale).

L. Arctic and Antarctic - Special materials and first editions before 1900.

III. By form.

A. Manuscript Materials.

B. Broadsides.

C. Ephemera.

1. Graphic Arts.

2. Book Auction and Dealers' Catalogs (selective).

D. Books of unusual size or format, such as miniatures (under 4 inches).

E. Signed hand bookbindings.

F. Books with interesting association and marginalia.

G. Limited editions and special editions (app. 100 copies).

IV. By value.

General library books valued over $25.00 per volume.

The following report was submitted by Miss Hunter Ives:

Mr. Charles Adams

Assistant to the Director of Libraries

Mr. Adams:

As curator of the Plimpton, Smith and Dale Libraries I have the honor to present the following report for the academic year ending June 30, 1945.

The major part of Mr. Ives' time this year was concerned with the completion of his work on the transcription of our "Alcuin codex" (De Ricci Census no. 58) - considered the most valuable of all our medieval manuscripts. Altho primarily a Pseudo-Gregorian Gospel commentary, it is in its numerous scriptural citations that the codex has proved to be most important. The results of Mr. Ives' study show that these citations form an important witness to the character of the pre-Vulgate or the Old Latin Bible, extant specimens of which are so much rarer than those of the Vulgate version. It is to be hoped that the results of this study will take the form of a published article and thus bring to the attention of interested scholars the possibilities of this important codex.

In order to be able to work with some of our other Biblical manuscripts, Mr. Ives has mastered the elements of Hebrew and Syriac. He has already begun the examination and description of a large Syriac lectionary in the David Eugene Smith collection.

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and graduate students came to Mr. Ives for help in solving various problems in paleography and related to ics. He also serves as consultant in manuscripts, medieval and classical Latin for other departments of the Libraries.

Miss Schild devoted most of her time to cataloging and this year saw the completion of the cataloging of all books in the language section, that is, the dictionaries, spellers and grammars of all languages represented in the collection. There still remain the readers and rhetorics.

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In cooperation with the head of Special Collections Miss Schild examined and reported on a collection of Venetian documents left to the Libraries by Prof. Livingston.

Two exhibitions were arranged this year. In November, to supplement the exhibition prepared by Book Arts and the English department in celebration of the 300th anniversary of the printing of Milton's Areopagitica, this Library arranged a display, "Education and Learning in Milton's England". Milton's treatise "On Education" was issued the same year as the more famous Areopagitica.

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edition has an interesting provenance, being the Britwell Court copy which was sold at the Christie-Miller sale in London about twenty years ago. Columbia made the purchase through the Rosenbach Company.

Also acquired were two editions of Erasmus' famous Praise of Folly, one from the 18th century and the other from the 17th century.

Several important additions to our astronomy collection were made - among them, the Sacro Bosco mentioned above, a 16th century edition of the famous Alfonsine tables, Galileo's Systema cosmicum of 1635, Scheiner's Refractiones coelestes of 1617 and Vincent Wing's Urania practica of 1648, one of the earliest English books on the subject.- To our early American text books were added several editions of McGuffey's Readers and a Webster Spelling book.

Dr. Isaac Mendelsohn completed the listing of the Korans in the David Eugene Smith collection. Arranged by arbitrary numbers, the description includes identification of type of script and decoration, indication of date, size of page and binding. Of the 50 odd pieces examined by Dr. Mendelsohn the earliest dated one is 1537 A. D. There are several from the 17th and 18th centuries, twenty-two from the 19th century, while nineteen have no date. Identification of these must await further study.- Such a list is a welcome addition to our aids. It is to be hoped that our Arabic scientific manuscripts can be given similar treatment.

Needs.

Outstanding is the need for a part-time clerical worker and typist. For several years tasks which should be done by such an assistant have been postponed, to our own annoyance and inconvenience. But many such tasks cannot be put off so that there is no member of our small staff who is not doing some work which should be done by a clerical assistant.

The other outstanding needs revolve about physical equipment. First, for the preservation of the books (the heat and dryness are both very bad); secondly, for the eyesight of our patrons (light on tables and exhibition cases quite inadequate); and thirdly the efficiency and comfort of the staff (new, or repaired, typewriters and an electric fan).

July 24, 1945.

Bertha Frick

PLIMPTON, SMITH AND DALE LIBRARIES

July 1, 1944 - June 30, 1945

Mr. Charles Adams

Assistant to the Director of Libraries

Mr. Adams:

As curator of the Plimpton, Smith and Dale Libraries I have the honor to present the following report for the academic year ending June 30, 1945.

The major part of Mr. Ives' time this year was concerned with the completion of his work on the transcription of our "Alcuin codex" (De Ricci Census no. 58) - considered the most valuable of all our medieval manuscripts. Altho primarily a Pseudo-Gregorian Gospel commentary, it is in its numerous scriptural citations that the codex has proved to be most important. The results of Mr. Ives' study show that these citations form an important witness to the character of the pre-Vulgate or the Old Latin Bible, extant specimens of which are so much rarer than those of the Vulgate version. It is to be hoped that the results of this study will take the form of a published article and thus bring to the attention of interested scholars the possibilities of this important codex.

In order to be able to work with some of our other Biblical manuscripts, Mr. Ives has mastered the elements of Hebrew and Syriac. He has already begun the examination and description of a large Syriac lectionary in the David Eugene Smith collection.

As there is no course in Latin paleography now being given in the University, both faculty (Prof. Thorndike, Prof. Kris[illegible]

and graduate students came to Mr. Ives for help in solving various problems in paleography and related topics. He also serves as consultant in manuscripts and medieval classical Latin for other departments of the Libraries.

Miss Schild devoted most of her time to cataloging and this year saw the completion of the cataloging of all books in the language section, that is, the dictionaries, spellers and grammars of all languages represented in the collection. There still remain the readers and rhetorics.

Cataloging of our splendid calligraphy collection was begun in May and, although it is too early yet to give detailed information, it is already certain that the collection contains several early English imprints which appear to be unique.

In cooperation with the head of Special Collections Miss Schild examined and reported on a collection of Venetian documents left to the Libraries by Prof. Livingston.

Two exhibitions were arranged this year. In November, to supplement the exhibition prepared by Book Arts and the English department in celebration of the 300th anniversary of the printing of Milton's Areopagitica, this Library arranged a display, "Education and Learning in Milton's England". Milton's treatise "On Education" was issued the same year as the more famous Areopagitica.

The current exhibition is divided into two parts - the history of writing and the history of mathematics. The first topic, always

of popular appeal, is of direct value to the summer session students in the School of Library Service while the second subject is primarily for the benefit of classes of mathematics in Teachers College.

This year saw the acquisition of more than a hundred books, about half of which came through gift, transfer from other departments or by allotment from consignments received in the Acquisition department. The fifty which were ordered and purchased represent a planned attempt to round out the holdings of these collections. They range in period from an incunabulum (ca. 1495 edition of Sacro Bosco's Sphaera) to a 1945 limited edition of Euclid's Elements (Book I designed by Bruce Rogers). The eleven acquisitions from the 16th century include two of the most important books in this Library.- First of these is the Operina of Ludovico Arrighi issued in Rome in 1522. Usually spoken of as the first writing-master's copybook, it therefore takes its place at the head of our magnificent collection of such works. It is not, however, the first book on the art of calligraphy to appear. The Plimpton collection is fortunate in having Fanti's Theorica et pratica ... de modo scribendi (Venice, 1514) for the honor of first position. This, however, was preceded by Pacioli's Divina proportione (Venice, 1509) which included a section on the formation of letters. (This work is in Typographic Library).- The Italic letter used by Arrighi was copied even more extensively by printers and met with even greater success than did

Aldus' italic. Coming down to modern times it is important to note that Arrighi's letter was used as a model by Frederic Warde in designing an italic type face to be used with Bruce Rogers' "Centaur". Appropriately enough, Warde's type face was named "Arrighi".- The Operina therefore occupies a major place in the collection of writing-masters' copybooks and in the book arts collection in which the Libraries are so rich.

The other important acquisition may well be called the keystone to our mathematics texts. The work is Robert Recorde's Pathway to knowledg (London, 1551.) Not only is it the first geometry in English, it is also the first appearance of the famous Elements of Euclid from an English press. While it contains only the substance of the first four books of the Elements the volume antedates by almost twenty years the first full-dress English edition of Euclid. The Recorde edition is extremely rare - this is one of four copies located in the U. S. (This title was circularized by the Union Catalogue at L. C. only four years ago). We are fortunate in possessing also the second edition of the Pathway, issued in 1574, which seems to be slightly rarer even than the first edition. Three copies have been located in the U. S. but this is the only institution to contain both editions. Strangely enough each edition seems to become increasingly rarer for only a single copy of the 1602 edition appears to be in existence - and that is in the British Museum. So any ambition we have to possess all three editions (apparently all that were issued) would seem to be a vain hope. But - one never knows!- Our copy of the 1551

edition has an interesting provenance, being the Britwell Court copy which was sold at the Christie-Miller sale in London about twenty years ago. Columbia made the purchase through the Rosenbach Company.

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July 24, 1945.

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Cataloging statistics for the year 1944-1945

| | Titles | Volumes | Anals. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Plimpton | 1095 | 1146 | 13 |
| D. E. Smith | 43 | 64 | 3 |
| Dale | 0 | 0 | |
| Total | 1138 | 1210 | 16 |

July 1, 1945